

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. In the Office Action dated January 8, 2004, claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claim 21 is canceled below. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner for reconsideration.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). As will be described below, the discharged circuit appears in the drawings as reference numeral 66 in Figure 4. The "housing" has been changed to enclosure to be consistent with the specification. Also, a power source charger is not set forth in the claims. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the objection to the drawings.

Claims 21 stands objected to not have claim language associated with it. It appears that claim 21 should have been part of claim 20 since it was separated automatically during electronic filing. Applicants have amended claim 20 to include the phrases of former claim 21.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner states "Specifically, one of ordinary skill in the art would have to do an undue experimentation to develop a complete scheme with a performance as claimed, because the complete scheme is not disclosed, and control elements are not provided, as required for a clear disclosure." Applicants respectfully submit that Figures 1-6 illustrate various alternative embodiments and present a schematic of the present invention. For example, the boxes for auxiliary loads 26, 28 are described in the specification as being one of various types of components in an automotive vehicle. The

power sources may, for example, be batteries. The inverter is an inverter of the type described in numerous patents for hybrid electric vehicles. Also, the motor/generator 32 is also illustrated. The Examiner should realize that the motor/generator is capable of operating on the power provided by the power source (as a motor) as well as generating power which may be coupled back to the power sources for charging them. The detailed description provides the connections of each schematic illustrated in Figures 1-6 and a method of operating each of the schematics. Should the Examiner have any further questions, he directed to contact the undersigned.

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claim 1 has been amended to change the antecedent basis for the switch and the inverter.

With respect claim 2, the motor/generator 32 is capable of charging. Therefore, no separate charger needs to be shown in the drawings since the motor/generator is capable of charging.

Claim 4 has been amended to remove the wording "housing" and insert the wording "enclosure." The Examiner states that with respect to claim 8, that no discharge circuit is illustrated. Applicants direct the Examiner to Figure 4, reference numeral 66. Also, the Examiner states that there is insufficient antecedent basis for an inverter capacitor. The inverter capacitor is shown as 69 in Box 30 of Figure 4.

With respect to claim 15, various sensed conditions are illustrated. Also, first power sources and second power sources are illustrated in the Figures. Also, prior to servicing is described in paragraph [0030]. Applicants have amended paragraph [0030] to include not only "during a service mode" but to insert the wording "or prior to". This is not new material since it was contained in the original claims. We believe that this amendment overcomes this rejection.

Common node is an electrical term used for a common point or point of connections. Common node is described in paragraph [0032].

With respect to claim 19, the Examiner states "coupling the second power." Applicants respectfully submit the claim recites, "coupling the second power source." Applicants believe that no amendment is required for this. If the Examiner determines an amendment should be made, he is directed to contact the undersigned.

Claim 20 recites "said switch." Applicants have amended claim 20 to refer to "a" switch. The predetermined condition as mentioned above is stated in various places in the specification. Various conditions are set forth. The exact wording "predetermined condition" is first set forth in paragraph [0021], four lines from the bottom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner for reconsideration of the claims.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all rejections are now overcome. The Applicants have added no new material to the application by these amendments. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any

questions or comments the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Please charge any fees required in the filing of this amendment to Deposit Account 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,



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